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MAY CIRCULATION.
Daily.

The number of complete and perfect copies of The Washington Times printed daily during the month of May was as follows:

May 1.....	Sunday, May 17.....	50,147
May 2.....	May 18.....	51,341
May 3.....	May 19.....	51,085
May 4.....	May 20.....	50,952
May 5.....	May 21.....	51,109
May 6.....	May 22.....	52,269
May 7.....	May 23.....	52,269
May 8.....	May 24.....	52,269
May 9.....	May 25.....	48,329
May 10.....	May 26.....	48,329
May 11.....	May 27.....	48,329
May 12.....	May 28.....	48,329
May 13.....	May 29.....	48,329
May 14.....	May 30.....	48,329
May 15.....	May 31.....	46,463
May 16.....		50,215

Total for the month.....1,286,708
Daily average for the month.....48,273

The net total circulation of The Times (daily) during the month of May was 1,286,708, all copies left over and returned by agents being eliminated. This number, when divided by 26, the number of days of publication, shows the net daily average for May to have been 49,489.

Sunday.

The number of complete and perfect copies of The Washington Times printed Sundays during the month of May was as follows:

May 1.....	41,300
May 2.....	41,300
May 3.....	41,300
May 4.....	41,300
May 5.....	41,300
May 6.....	41,300
May 7.....	41,300
May 8.....	41,300
May 9.....	41,300
May 10.....	41,300
May 11.....	41,300
May 12.....	41,300
May 13.....	41,300
May 14.....	41,300
May 15.....	41,300
May 16.....	41,300
May 17.....	41,300
May 18.....	41,300
May 19.....	41,300
May 20.....	41,300
May 21.....	41,300
May 22.....	41,300
May 23.....	41,300
May 24.....	41,300
May 25.....	41,300
May 26.....	41,300
May 27.....	41,300
May 28.....	41,300
May 29.....	41,300
May 30.....	41,300
May 31.....	41,300

Total for the month.....1,286,708
Sunday average for the month.....49,489

The net total circulation of The Times (Sundays) during the month of May was 1,286,708, all copies left over and returned by agents being eliminated. This number, when divided by 26, the number of days of publication, shows the net Sunday average for May to have been 49,489.

In each issue of The Times, the circulation figures for the previous day are plainly printed at the bottom of the first page, at the left of the date line.

Persons leaving the city for a long or short period during the summer can have The Times mailed to them at the rate of thirty cents a month, or seven cents a week. Addresses may be changed as often as desired. All mail subscriptions must be paid in advance.

GAS ISSUES ARE NOW SQUARELY BEFORE CONGRESS.

Four years ago, when The Washington Times began its campaign for cheaper gas and for regulation of the gas companies, the price of gas in the District of Columbia was \$1 per thousand cubic feet.

After submitting to the constant agitation of The Times and the people for three years the gas companies, on July 1, 1909, reduced the price of gas to 80 cents per thousand cubic feet.

Simultaneously with the reduction the gas companies declared an extra dividend of 10 per cent, making 20 per cent paid in dividends last year.

When The Times started its fight the gas companies were in court, under a law passed in 1896, with a procedure to double the capitalization of the companies.

That procedure was defeated and the law permitting the capital to be doubled has been repealed.

The gas consumers have been saved from the necessity of paying dividends on an additional \$5,000,000 of capitalization.

Spurred on by the campaign of The Times and the public protest aroused by this newspaper, the House District Committee has reported to the House for passage a bill reducing the price of gas to 80 cents per thousand cubic feet, and a resolution prohibiting any increase in capitalization by the companies without specific authority of Congress.

Evidence brought out in the gas hearings before the House District Committee this winter and spring prove conclusively that the price of gas should be not more than 80 cents per thousand cubic feet, and that the companies' stock-juggling proclivities should be curbed.

The 80-cent bill and the capitalization resolution are now before the House for passage or rejection.

What is the House going to do about it?

Is the right of the people of the District of Columbia to a fair deal from the gas companies to be recognized at this session of Congress, or are the gas companies to be allowed to continue their arbitrary and high-handed practices and their 20 per cent dividends?

ANOTHER CASE OF ANCIENT BUSINESS METHODS.

In the "Mail Bag" column today The Times publishes an exceedingly interesting letter from a former Government employee, who writes concerning the ancient business methods in the Government departments, a subject treated extensively by President Taft in his interview in the current number of McClure's magazine.

The writer spent several years in the service of the Government, in a bureau where hundreds of men and women are employed. The conditions he describes are almost unbelievable, yet when one considers the astounding revelations made by Mr. Taft it is not difficult to accept The Times' corre-

spondent's statements as true. They show, as does the President's story on ancient bureau practices, that our methods of attending to the Government's business need a thorough overhauling. They also cause one to suspect that Senator Aldrich probably knew what he was talking about when he said he could run the Government at a saving of \$300,000,000 a year if he had authority to conduct it as he would conduct a private institution.

CIVIL PENSIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

It is almost a universal habit in the United States to denounce any one who holds up the customs or institutions of a foreign country as a guide for Americans in dealing with their own problems. "Why should we go to England, or Germany, or France, or Holland for lessons in government; we're the smartest people on the face of the globe; nobody can show us anything." This is what one is likely to hear if he presumes to mention how some foreign people handle this or that or the other troublesome issue.

In this we are silly and astonishingly short-sighted. As a matter of fact, while we are the smartest people on the face of the globe, still we have not by any means perfected a monopoly on human intelligence. There's still a little common sense and wisdom floating around the Old World and the Orient, and we would do exceedingly well to take such of it as we need and use it when it fits our own case.

For instance, practically all the civilized powers have been pensioning their civil employes for years, while we are just beginning to recognize the necessity for such a system. Our civil service has reached a point where it shows the evil effects of superannuation among employes, and we find ourselves confronted with a problem. We cringe at the inhuman policy of turning our faithful old workers out into the cold, to subsist on almost nothing or to starve, yet we find it necessary to turn them out in order that the public work may be more efficiently performed. And we have made no provision for their old age.

England, France, Germany, Holland—even barbaric Turkey—have long had civil service retirement systems. These people are some few hundred years older than we and they have learned by experience what we have been too bigoted to learn by observation. Their systems have stood there, year after year, open to our inspection, but we've been such a smart lot of wide-awake Yankees that we didn't need to turn to them to learn how to run our government!

If we had had a little more breadth of view and a little less selfishness in our minds we would have looked across the water, observed what was being done in Europe, and put into operation here the good thing that we saw there. If we had done that a few years ago we would not now, in casting about for some way to help our old civil employes, who are being dropped from the rolls, find that sympathy is the only thing we can offer for their relief.

The Gillett civil service retirement bill now pending in the House was drawn after a thorough investigation of the pension systems of foreign countries. In it is embodied what the framers of the measure believe are the best features of all the plans that have been tried.

Congress should pass the Gillett bill and should do it at this session.

MORE LIGHT ON THE COST OF LIVING.

Interest in the high cost of living continues keen, and the public is glad of any information that throws light on the subject. A New York wholesale merchant puts the onus on the middleman—or, what is still more disturbing, the middlemen—by quoting the wholesale and retail prices of certain vegetables. He shows that strawberries, quoted wholesale at 20 to 40 cents a quart, are retailed at 60 to 100 cents a quart, at 8 cents a pound, are sold, wholesale, at 8 cents a pound, are retailed at 25 cents a pound; while new potatoes, costing, wholesale, from 2½ to 5 cents a quart, are retailed at 15 cents a quart. The wholesaler who quotes these figures makes it very clear that the middleman, in New York, at any rate, is getting a large part of the increased cost of living.

President Brown, of the New York Central lines, in a speech before the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, dwelt upon the lack of concentration in the means of distribution and the economic waste incident thereto. Living in an apartment house in New York containing about forty apartments, he observed that at times there were as many as fifteen delivery wagons, each with only one or two boxes or baskets, when one wagon and driver easily might have made all the deliveries. In a nearby block he noticed that there were sixteen stores or markets, all dealing in the same line of business, when four such stores easily might have taken care of the trade, and the superfluous dozen merchants, with their clerks, might have been out in the country as producers instead of remaining in the city as consumers.

As the New York Times remarks, there is more wisdom in this suggestion than in all the reports of all the commissions to investigate the high cost of living. Concentration and co-

operation are undoubtedly excellent—up to the point where competition is not destroyed. Eliminating the profits of some of the middlemen, however, is fraught with much less danger and is well worthy of attention.

INCREASES OFF FREIGHT RATES ARE ENJOINED.

Attorney General Wickersham has succeeded in getting a temporary injunction, granted by Judge Dyer of the Federal district court at Hannibal, Mo., restraining twenty-five railroads in the Middle West from putting into effect the increases in freight rates which they proposed to establish today. The injunction was issued in the nick of time. A few hours' delay would have meant that the rates had gone into effect. As it is, the increases will not be allowed until the court has had time to try the suit for a permanent injunction.

Inasmuch as it will probably be next fall before the case can finally be heard, this will give the shippers a long respite from the threatened higher tariffs. The Government, backed by Western shippers, maintains that the roads have acted in concert and therefore have violated the Sherman anti-trust law.

On the face of things the Government side of the contention is a strong one. Such evidence of conspiracy and concert of action was presented to the Department of Justice that it could not be overlooked. As a practical matter, no other course was open to the Administration but to take steps to enjoin the increases in view of their extent, the vast sums of money involved to shippers and consumers, and the circumstances under which they appear to have been unitedly determined upon.

Credit is due the Administration and the Attorney General for prompt action when the shippers presented their case to the Department of Justice. None the less, it is true that to have failed to act would have merited severe condemnation and would have been indefensible. Politically, it would have been folly.

It is to be borne in mind that the action of the Government under the Sherman law, however, does not by any means solve the question of how to escape higher freight rates for the Middle West. The roads can turn squarely around and file with the Interstate Commerce Commission notices of other increases, so long as they avoid concert of action. The whole transaction points clearly to the fact that until the Interstate Commerce Commission is clothed with authority such as to require its approval to increases of rates before those increases go into effect, there will be no adequate regulation of freight rates, and no security to shippers against just such alarms and disturbances as they have been subjected to in this instance.

When so eminent a forecaster as Pinchot assures us that the big stick is as hard and knotty as ever we are surely justified in believing it.

The only real difference occasioned by this weather is that the coal man hangs on a little longer and the ice man gets hold a little later.

How is it possible to reconcile the theory that the comet never touched us with the spectacle of furnace fires on the list of June?

It may be all right for the Government to hold up those new railway rates, but what the public really wants is to have them held down.

Anyway, Rudolph Spreckels, who intends to reform Chicago, doesn't care how long a job he undertakes.

Strange as it may seem, the Chamber of Commerce members have their innings on their outings.

Nicaragua has had nearly as many edicts from this country as it has had fatalities in battle.

There is one comfortable thing about the stock market—after every slump there is a jump.

And still the fact that he's out of a job doesn't appear to worry Mr. Pinchot a little bit.

If the comet's not responsible for this weather, will some one kindly explain what is?

The courage of Mr. Roosevelt's convictions seems to be working as strong as ever.

"Put up or shut up," is the colonel's theory of the proper English policy in Egypt.

Purity in politics is like pure food in that there is an awful lot written about it.

The Western railroad men evidently thought Uncle Sam wasn't looking.

The ice man is having a hard time to get his hooks in this year.

Mr. Pinchot is now engaged in making silence do a lot of talking.

Thomas E. Watson says he is a Democrat. Again or yet?

In the Mail Bag
More Ancient Methods.

To the Editor of The Washington Times: I have read an article about "Ancient Methods of Doing Public Business" in your issue of May 26, by which I am reminded of my own experiences in that line. I have been a clerk in one of the Government departments, and before I was a clerk for the Government I had been a business man for years in several capacities—as a manager of manufacturing plants, stores, and agricultural houses.

I had not worked for the Government long before I noticed what seemed to me many roundabout and useless methods, and a few times had suggested to fellow clerks that I thought the work or business could be done better and shorter than it was done. It was intimated to me that if I persisted in such suggestions I might "work myself out of a job." So, thereafter I said nothing, but watched and took notice of the manner that other work was done in the same division.

After I became well acquainted with my work I was put in charge for a few days of the work in my section in the absence of the regular chief. On the evening of my first day's superintendence, the work of all the clerks in that section was brought to my desk for count and correction. The next day, after having noted the errors in each clerk's work, I took it back to each one for correction, which immediately stirred up a rumpus. "Why do you bring my work back to me?" it was asked by several. "For you to correct," I replied. "Why don't you correct it yourself, said one. "Because it was not my error, but yours, and for you to correct," was my answer. Upon investigation I found that the regular "chief" had never returned any work to clerks for correction, but had corrected it himself. In fact they had never known before that they had made any mistakes.

I also found that work in that section was done often two and three times over on the same day, by different clerks, but without the knowledge of the clerks themselves. When I spoke of it I was advised not to notice it. All the work done then except one copy was useless and the extra duplicates were destroyed. That sort of business was kept up as long as I remained in that "section," as the present force is called, as the present force is called. I did not think it was good business, but I was powerless to change it. I can understand why the "ancient methods of doing public business" are still in use. There are hundreds of clerks in Government offices, and chiefs of sections, and divisions also, who have grown up "in office" and never did any other business in their lives. Some of them have worked at the same desk for years, and a few of them have been given them to do, and as they are directed to do it, and it has never occurred to them that there may be any better way.

I believe that several of the "ancient methods" which I worked could be reorganized so as to do the work now done with one half the force at present employed. If it is ever decided to have to be done by some one outside of the present force, some one used to organizing business details, and using the "ancient methods" of doing public business, EX-CLERK.

Capital Tales
Lee Resembles Father

ONCE a month there appears upon the streets of Washington a man who bears a striking resemblance to Gen. Robert E. Lee. The man is, in fact, Gen. George Washington Custis Lee, a son of the leader of the Confederate Army, who served as a major general in the Confederate army.

General Lee's regular visits to Washington are not for the purpose of renewing old acquaintances. He always has a more practical mission. As soon as he leaves the train the old soldier walks to the Ebbitt House, where a negro barber greets him courteously, the general steps into the chair and has his hair cut. After leaving the barber shop he steps across the street to the law offices of his son, Robert E. Lee, where he remains for a few minutes. He then takes an early afternoon train back to his home in Fairfax county, Va.

General Lee is president emeritus of Washington and Lee University, of which institution his father also was president. The striking resemblance to his famous father was illustrated by the sculptor who was selected to design the statue of General Lee which now stands in statutory hall at the Capital. The sculptor had an excellent death mask of the Confederate general, but was somewhat puzzled about the size of the hands until he was informed that Gen. George Washington Custis Lee was the living image of his father. The sculptor thereupon took an impression of the hands of the general.

Gen. Robert Lee, by the way, is the subject of much debate in some quarters as the result of statements recently made by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts to the effect that he was not a citizen of the United States when he died.

The proclamation of President Johnson granting amnesty to all Confederate soldiers below the rank of colonel. All officers above that rank were required to take an oath of allegiance to the United States before being restored to citizenship. Senator Lodge has asserted that General Lee did not take that oath, although he advised his soldiers to do so.

This statement has been disputed by some of Lee's followers, and officials of the Congressional Library have been requested to look up the records. They have been at work several days, but thus far have found no document to disprove the assertion of the Massachusetts Senator.

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WIDOW TO ATTEND CUSTER UNVEILING

Leaves for Monroe, Mich., Where Monument to General's Memory Will Be Accepted.

NEW YORK, June 1.—Mrs. Elizabeth B. Custer, widow of General Custer, the famous Indian fighter, has left here for Monroe, Mich., the birthplace of her husband, where a monument in his memory will be unveiled by her in the town square next Saturday morning.

President Taft will attend and make an address, as will also Senator William Alden Smith and Gen. David McM. Gregg, commander of the Second Cavalry Corps, Department of the Army of the Potomac.

The unveiling will be attended by many members of Congress and Senators, and a salute of seventeen guns will be fired.

Month of Roses and Brides Begins
With Three Weddings in Capital



MISS LAURA A. STOTSENBURG.

Miss Stotsenburg Weds
Lieut. Charles R. Mayo

The marriage of Miss Laura Annesley Stotsenburg, daughter of Mrs. John M. Stotsenburg, and Lieut. Charles R. Mayo, U. S. A., to Lieut. Charles R. Mayo, U. S. A., will take place this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock in St. Margaret's. The officiating clergyman will be the rector, the Rev. Herbert Scott Smith, who will perform the ceremony in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends.

Palms, yellow daisies and peonies will form the church decorations. An appropriate musical program by the organist of the church will precede the entrance of the bride party and continue softly throughout the ceremony.

The bride, who will be given in marriage by her uncle, James R. Ely, of New York, will wear a handsome bridal gown of white satin and rose point lace, made on simple princess lines with a long train, and the lace-trimmed bodice finished with a V-shaped neck. She will wear a long veil of tulle arranged with sprays of lilies of the valley, and will carry a shower bouquet of lilies of the valley.

William B. Kromer, wife of Captain Kromer, Q. M. D. U. S. A., will be her sister's matron of honor. She will wear white embroidered mull over yellow satin, made in princess effect, with a hat of white lace trimmed with tiny yellow roses, and her bouquet will be of yellow daisies.

Lieutenant Graham Acts As Best Man.

Lieut. E. F. Graham, Tenth Cavalry, will be best man for Lieutenant Mayo, and the ushers will be Capt. William L. Luhn, U. S. A., Lieut. James H. Luhn, U. S. A., Lieut. Walter J. Scott, all of the bridegroom's regiment, the Tenth Cavalry, and Lieut. Robert F. Tate, of the Fifteenth Cavalry, stationed at Fort Myer, all classmates of the bridegroom at the Military Academy at West Point.

A small reception will follow the ceremony at the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. James T. Young. The house will be decorated with yellow daisies, palms, and ferns.

Mrs. Stotsenburg, the bride's mother, will be seated at the head of the table, and will be attended by her daughter, Mrs. Mayo, who will wear a Chantilly lace tulle.

The list of out-of-town guests includes Mr. and Mrs. James R. Ely and Mrs. Alice Ely, of New York; State Senator and Mrs. George W. Sparks, of Wilmington, Del.; Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Middleton, of Baltimore; Col. and Mrs. Harry G. Cavanaugh, the former of the staff of the governor of Delaware, and an uncle of the bridegroom's regiment, and other of his brother officers.

A. Mayo, of the bridegroom, also came to this country for the wedding. Lieutenant Mayo will leave for his trip, and afterward Lieutenant Mayo will take his bride to Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., where his regiment is stationed.

Mrs. Sherman Returns From Utica.

Mrs. Sherman, wife of the Vice President, will return to Washington this afternoon from their home in Utica, where she spent the week end. Mr. and Mrs. Lott Hunt, of Utica, will and Mrs. Lott Hunt, of Utica, will be in Washington tomorrow morning for a visit to the Vice President and Mrs. Sherman.

Mrs. MacVeach, wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, left Washington today for her home in Chicago. She will return to Washington in a fortnight for a few days stay before going to their summer home at Dublin, N. H., for the season.

Mrs. Wickersham, wife of the Attorney General, will leave town tomorrow for Marshfield, their summer home on Long Island. The Attorney General will join her there later in the season.

Mrs. Nagel, wife of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, accompanied by Miss Nagel, will leave Washington today for Marion, Mass., for the summer.

Mrs. Mann Leaves for Chicago.

Mrs. James R. Mann left Washington today for Chicago where Representative Mann will join her at the close of the present session of Congress.

Miss Mary Remy Bride
Of Capt. J. W. Wadleigh

Miss Mary Remy, daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Remy, U. S. N., and Capt. John Wadleigh, U. S. N., M. C. son of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Wadleigh, U. S. N., will be married this afternoon at 5 o'clock, in St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in the presence of a distinguished company.

A profusion of palms, roses, and peonies will adorn the chancel, forming an attractive background for the bridal party.

Admiral Remy, who will wear his uniform, as will the bridegroom and his attendants, will escort his daughter and give her in marriage. She will wear white satin with an overdress and train, trimmed with rose point lace and sprays of orange blossoms. Her tulle veil will be arranged with orange blossoms, and she will carry lilies of the valley.

Miss Angelica Remy, sister of the bride, will be the maid of honor, and her only attendant. She will wear white messaline satin, draped and trimmed with fringe and hand embroidery. Her hat will be a white Neapolitan straw, trimmed with pink roses and tulle, and she will carry pink roses and tulle.

Dr. John Wadleigh, U. S. N., will be the best man, and the ushers will be Capt. C. F. Williams, U. S. N., Lieut. Richard Wainwright, Jr., U. S. N., and William B. Remy and John T. Remy, brothers of the bride.

Reception At Bride's Parents' Home.

Following the ceremony at the church, there will be a reception at the home of the bride's parents on New Hampshire avenue. The decorations will consist of palms and pink roses in the drawing room, and ferns and white in the dining room.

Mrs. Remy, mother of the bride, will wear gray chiton over a black lace and will be accompanied by her two children: Mrs. Williams, of Dover, N. H., sister of Rear Admiral Wadleigh; Mrs. William Wadleigh, of Lexington, Mass., parents of the bridegroom; his sisters, Mrs. Wadleigh, of Lexington, and Mrs. Severance Barron, of Lafayette, Ind., the latter accompanied by her two children: Mrs. Williams, of Dover, N. H., sister of Rear Admiral Wadleigh; Mrs. William Wadleigh, of Lexington, Mass., parents of the bridegroom; his sisters, Mrs. Wadleigh, of Lexington, and Mrs. Severance Barron, of Lafayette, Ind., the latter accompanied by her two children: Mrs. Williams, of Dover, N. H., sister of Rear Admiral Wadleigh; Mrs. William Wadleigh, of Lexington, Mass., parents of the bridegroom; his sisters, Mrs. Wadleigh, of Lexington, and Mrs. Severance Barron, of Lafayette, Ind., the latter accompanied by her two children: Mrs. Williams, of Dover, N. 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